

REC'D -10

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: | : | Docket: ACM 2975 US |
| Conrardus H. J. Theeuwen, et al. | : | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: |
| Serial No.: 10/537,199 | : | |
| | : | Examiner: |
| Int'l Application No.: PCT/EP2003/13682 | : | |
| Int'l Filing Date: December 1, 2003 | : | |
| | : | |
| For: USE OF CARBOXYMETHYL CELLULOSE | : | |
| (CMC) IN FRUIT-BASED PRODUCTS | : | |

 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.56, applicants submit the documents attached hereto. Pursuant to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, OG Notice 05 August 2003, applicants have excluded copies of the two (2) U.S. patent documents. All documents are to be made of record in the above-identified case. A listing of said documents on form PTO-1449 is also attached.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of entrance into the U.S. National stage; therefore, no filing fee is believed to be required. If a filing fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge applicants' deposit account 01-1350 for the full amount of said fee.

A copy of the International Search Report dated March 18, 2004 is enclosed herewith.

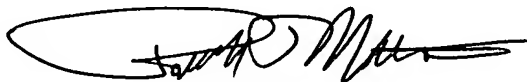
WO 99/20657 is not in the English language, however, the U.S. equivalent 6,593,468B1 is cited herewith.

Japanese Patent Application No. JP 080-38076 is not in the English language, however, applicants submit herewith Derwent Abstract No. JP 08038076.

This statement is not intended to represent that no better art exists. Applicants reserve the right to contest the applicability of the documents attached hereto as prior art in the event that any information is discovered which demonstrates that said documents do not qualify as prior art.

Consideration of the present Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested. The claimed invention is, however, deemed to represent a patentable departure from the teachings of the prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph J. Mancini", enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

Ralph J. Mancini
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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) PTO-1449 (modified) | | | | Atty. Docket # ACM 2975 US | | Serial No. 10/537,199 | |
| | | | | Applicant Conrardus H. J. Theeuwen, et al. | | | |
| | | | | Int'l Filing Date December 1, 2003 | | Group Art Unit | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| Init | Document No. | Issue Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date | |
| | 3,418,133 | 12/24/1968 | Nijmegen | 99 | 1 | | |
| | 6,593,468 B1 | 7/15/2003 | Lange et al. (Equivalent to WO 99/20657) | 536 | 84 | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | Document No. | Publ. Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Translation | |
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| | WO 99/20657 | 4/29/1999 | PCT | C08B | 11/00 | X | |
| | JP 080-38076 | 2/13/1996 | Japanese | A23L | 1/06 | X | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | |
| | International Search Report, No.: PCT/EP2003/13682, 18 March 2004. | | | | | | |
| | Derwent Abstract of JP 08038076 | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.